

## Neighborhood Plan Update Phase II Workshop with Members of the Somali Community

June 13, 2009

### **Part I: Places and Connections**

Exercise to discuss gaps and opportunities for improving pedestrian, bike and transit connectivity. (Where do you live/work/shop and mode of travel)

### **Part II: Building a Great Town Center**

Exercise to explore relationships between number of households, retail destinations, parks and walkability. (Creating a town center, housing density, building heights, etc)

- The city should consider building few 12 story building along the MLK to provide affordable higher rise-affordable rent. (High density)
- We propose to Increase high rise development by constructing buildings from 8 to 12 floors so that rent will decrease. (Increase supply)
- Likewise include in the plan green areas near the buildings.

### **Part III: Emerging Priorities and Opportunities**

Capturing new ideas or major concepts (new themes and remaining issues)

- The train has already caused increased cost of living and traffic.
- We ask the city to consider including in the neighborhood plan low income family housing.
- We request from the City to negotiate employment and contracts for our community with Sound Transit.
- Increase safety for pedestrian along the train –build barriers
- We propose to the City elected officials to consider providing a building to preserve Somali culture with the interest of the youth in mind so that our youth to keep off the jail and to the work force- Somali Cultural Center
- We propose to the city to negotiate cleaning contracts with the Sound Transit.
- Provide underground parking in the building for the neighborhood residents and businesses.
- Include parks and recreation employment opportunity to the Somali community to increase participation of the Somali community in the parks program.
- Provide provisions for rent control or subsidies for new immigrants and refugees owned businesses in the new developments.
- Provide small or mini bus services that will pick passengers from the stations and to the neighborhoods also provide contracts of services to the Somali business community.
- Safety for pedestrians along the train – include barriers on the sides along MLK.
- We request Increase safety around the stations and the area of the train.